In the absence of Representative Joe Eagles of the 14th District, the following oath of office administered by the Honorable Thad Eure, Secretary of State, is presented and on motion of Representative Barbee is included in today's journal. Representative Eagles is seated.

OATH OF MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

"I, Joe E. Eagles, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution and Laws of the United States; and I solemnly and sincerely swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina, and to the constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for the government thereof; and that I will endeavor to support, maintain, and defend the Constitution of said State, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, to the best of my knowledge and ability; and I do further solemnly swear that I will faithfully discharge my duties as a member of the House of Representatives of the State of North Carolina according to the best of my skill and ability and according to law, so help me, God."

S/ JOE E. EAGLES

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15th day of January, 1969.

S/ THAD EURE

Secretary of State

One hundred eighteen members having answered the roll call, the Secretary of State declares a quorum is present.

The Secretary of State announces that the first order of business is the election of a Speaker, and declares the nominations are in order:

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Representative Johnson of Wake places in nomination the name of Representative Earl W. Vaughn for Speaker of the 1969 House of Representatives.

"Mr. Chairman, honored guests, fellow members of the House of Representatives:

Today, January 15, 1969, is the beginning of a chapter in the history of North Carolina.

Today, by virtue of the power granted by the Constitution of North Carolina, the members of the House of Representatives are assembled in chambers and have taken their oath of office to begin the labor and to assume the responsibility imposed in this body by the people of our State.

A few minutes ago each of you said: 'I do solemnly and sincerely swear that I will faithfully, truly, and honestly perform my duties as a member of the House of Representatives of the North Carolina General Assembly to the best of my knowledge and ability....'

The first order of business is the election of a Speaker and it is my particular pleasure and privilege to place in nomination in behalf of the Democratic caucas our good friend and colleague from Rockingham County.